



MEN'S USTA PRO CIRCUIT EVENTS USTAPD WILD CARD GUIDELINES

As of June 22, 2017

Wild Cards to the USTA Professional Circuit men's singles and doubles events are awarded by the Head of Men's Tennis, USTAPD National Coaching staff and the Tournament Director of the event, respectively. The policy for the Player Development staff is to primarily promote upcoming American players when awarding the USTAPD Wild Cards. We also encourage Tournament Directors to award the Wild Cards controlled by the event to American players.

These guidelines are for players considering requesting a Wild Card for USTA Professional Circuit Events. As always, the USTAPD National Coaching Staff will objectively consider every Wild Card request sent to our attention.

As of this date, the events below have the following wild cards available:

	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>USTAPD WILD CARDS</u>	<u>LOCAL EVENT WILD CARDS</u>
Futures	Singles (64Q Draw)	2 Main-4 Qualifying	*2 Main – 4 Qualifying
	Singles (128Q Draw)	2 Main-6 Qualifying	*2 Main – 5 Qualifying
	Doubles	2 Main	1 Main
Challengers	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>USTAPD WILD CARDS</u>	<u>LOCAL EVENT WILD CARDS</u>
	Singles	2 Main – 3 Qualifying	2 Main – 3 Qualifying
	Doubles	2 Main – 1 Qualifying **	1 Main -1 Qualifying **

* *The Tournament Director has two main draw wild cards if he/she plans to hold a wild card event. If not, the wild card is returned to the USTAPD (USTAPD would then receive 3 main draw wild cards).*

** *The USTAPD and the Local Event make a joint decision as to which team shall receive one wild card into the qualifying doubles (if played) at the Men's Challenger events.*

In requesting a wild card, the USTA Player Development National Coaching staff has a basic philosophy when deciding upon the distribution of USTAPD wild cards.

- USTAPD Wild Cards will be given primarily to upcoming players with a strong record in national and/or international competitions.
- USTAPD Wild Cards may be awarded to players for past service to the U.S. in tennis, to re-establish a ranking due to an injury.
- It is important developmentally for our best young prospects to “earn” their way into the main draw of events by winning matches in the qualifying.
- It is important for players to establish themselves at each level of tournaments before moving on to the higher level. Typically, players need to prove themselves at each level before they will be strongly considered for Wild Cards at the next level. For example, to receive a Futures Wild Card, a player should have entered the qualifying event for at least two Futures tournaments, qualified on a few occasions and then won rounds in the main draw.
- Developing players will generally be given preference over more experienced players with a similar ranking. Experience of the player requesting is a factor. Players who have played on the USTA Pro Circuit for several years, who have not shown significant improvement in their results and ranking will seldom be considered for a Wild Card.
- The USTAPD National Coaching Staff strongly discourages Wild Card dependency by American players. Players should always be prepared to qualify in any tournament they wish to enter.
- When requesting Wild Cards into a Challenger event, a player should be ranked in the top 450 of the ATP, have shown exceptional results in the Men's Futures events and/or shown exceptional results in national and international junior competition.
- All players requesting a Wild Card to a Men's Futures event must have an IPIN, which can be obtained at www.itftennis.com.

Wild Card requests for USTA Men's Circuit events should be submitted online and should be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the event. The wild cards are collected by *German Cuesta*. *German can be contacted at (310) 630-4514 or german.cuesta@usta.com*. Wild Card Request Forms for USTA Men's Circuits are available on the website at www.playerdevelopment.usta.com (Click Player Resources) or www.procircuit.usta.com.

If USTA or USTAPD finds that Wild Cards are being sold or bartered, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.